



**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF NEW MARLBOROUGH
OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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**Tara B White, Chair
Nathaniel H. Yohalem
Michele Shalaby
Board of Selectmen**

**Minutes of Selectmen's Meeting
June 30, 2014**

Board Members Present: Tara B. White, Chairman
Michele Shalaby
Nat Yohalem

Others Present: Michael Skorput, Administrative Assistant
Sharon Fleck, Administrative Secretary
Alvin Stalker
Robert Litchfield
Tom Carmody
Prudence Spaulding
Burt Imberman
Mark Carson
John Psheishny
David Hastings
Bruce Turner
Vito Valentini

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen convened at 5:30 p.m. A joint meeting with the Finance Committee was held for the purpose of transferring funds.

The Board read the minutes. After a discussion, a motion was made and seconded and so voted by all members to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2014 Selectmen's meeting, as amended.

Compactor Fees - A motion was made and seconded and so voted by all members to approve the increased fees of construction and demolition materials to \$100.00 per load, one load per household, once a week, and that load not to exceed a 250 cargo capacity, effective August 15, 2014.

Southern Berkshire Regional School District – Representatives from the SBRSD included David Hastings, Bruce Turner and Vito Valentini. Mr. Valentini advised that the purpose of their visit was to advise the Town of New Marlborough of two issues:

1. The Town of New Marlborough was made aware of the fact that the BG&T committee is considering the possibility of air conditioning the second floor of Mt. Everett High School. The cost of installing air conditioning would be approximately \$150,000.00. New Marlborough's share of this project would be 21%, payable in one year or, pending finance approval, over five to seven years. The SBRSD is expected to present this project for the Town's approval within the next several months.
2. Boilers and Roof – One of the three boilers at Mt. Everett High School failed and cannot be used. The insurance company reimbursed \$68,000.00 to the school district as a way to make the SBRSD "whole," i.e. repair a 30 year old boiler. SBRSD did not feel this was going to be the most efficient use of funds. However, School Board Authority advised the SBRSD in May 2014 that they could participate in a program to repair and replace roofs, boilers, etc. to more energy efficient equipment. The cost of each boiler is estimated at a cost of approximately \$150,000.00. Part of the \$68,000.00 would be used to fund a feasibility study for this project. The State will advise the SBRSD in November 2014 how much money they will contribute to this project, the balance of which will have to be borrowed or could be supported by a bond issue.

Peg Phillips Fence and Hedge – Mr. Tom Farley, designer working with Peg Phillips, advised that a new fence would be 6 feet off the road, while the old fence was only 3 feet off the road. The fence would be 6 feet high with 18" of lattice work on top. Mr. Skorput suggested a plot plan be presented for the Town and the Highway Department to review. The Board of Selectmen agreed that if the Highway Department had no objection to this fence, they would approve the plan.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was called by order by Prudence Spaulding:

Transfers – A motion was made and seconded and so voted by all members to approve the following transfers:

From: Group Insurance to Tax Title (Treasurer)	\$29,040.71
From: Roads and Bridges to Winter Road	\$61,366.46

A motion was made and seconded and so voted by all members to accept the minutes of the Finance Committee.

Cultural Council – A motion was made and seconded and so voted by all members to approve the appointment of the following people to the Cultural Council:

Maureen Hosford	3 years
Alan Lombardi	3 years
Louise Yohalem	3 years (Nathaniel Yohalem recused himself from this vote)
Michele Shalaby	3 years (Michele Shalaby recused herself from this vote)

A motion was made and seconded and so voted by all members to approve the appointment of Trisha Killeen for a two year term to the Cultural Council.

A motion was made and seconded and so voted by all members to approve the appointment of Prudence Spaulding as Director of Senior Services for a term of one year.

A motion was made and seconded and so voted by all members to approve the appointment of Candace Marks to the Council of Aging for a term of one year.

A motion was made and seconded and so voted by all members to approve the appointment of Scott Farrell as Police Chief for a term of one year.

A motion was made and seconded and so voted by all members to approve the appointment of Charles Loring III as Fire Chief for a term of one year, subject to him executing a formal agreement, at a salary of \$10,000.00.

Appointment of Police Chief – Selectman Yohalem reported that, per Counsel, a new Police Chief can be appointed by the Board without the need for advertising the position.

Selectman Nathaniel Yohalem spoke with Counsel regarding the terms of one appointments and was advised that the Board of Selectmen could terminate those appointments if necessary.

Town Hall Renovations - Selectman Yohalem spoke about the high cost of the proposed Town Hall Renovations and suggested plans will have to be revised to reflect a lower cost and also be able to comply with ADA regulations

Moving Police Department Offices - Selectman Yohalem spoke with Dave Smith regarding moving the Police Offices to the new Fire Company Building. Dave Smith advised that there are problems: the circuit breaker is in there, which has to be available in case of electrical issues, and also would not allow privacy for the police records, etc. The second issue is that the Police Department would not have privacy. The discussion then turned toward moving the Police Department Offices to the old Fire Department building, which was acceptable to Dave Smith and the Fire Department and there is space available. Dave Smith will discuss this with Chief Scott Farrell, along with the costs applicable with this move.

A motion was made and seconded and so voted by all members to execute the lease for the rental of a bay in the old Firehouse for \$500.00 per month, under the same terms and conditions as the prior lease, effective July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015.

July 14, 2014 Meeting with Rep. Pignatelli and Senator Downing – Letters are being prepared and will be sent on July 1, 2014 to the Board of Selectmen in Alford, Egremont, Monterey, Mt. Washington, Sandisfield, Sheffield and Tyringham inviting each town to send a representative to this joint meeting at New Marlborough Town Hall. They have been asked

to submit questions to New Marlborough Town Hall in advance of this meeting. These questions will be sorted and submitted to both gentlemen prior to this meeting.

School Meetings – David Hastings will host the first round of school meetings at the Monterey School on July 8, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. The topic of discussion is future plans for the Monterey School and vision for capital needs, followed by a meeting in the Mt. Everett School library on July 10, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. with the Towns of Egremont, New Marlborough and Monterey to discuss future plans of the Monterey, South Egremont and New Marlborough Central Schools.

Community Benefit Program – Selectman Yohalem spoke with Counsel regarding this proposed policy, but was advised that such a program could not go forward without legislation, but is something that we should discuss with our legislators.

Secretary of the Finance Committee - Selectman Yohalem asked Council if payments could be made to the Secretary of the Finance Committee. Counsel advised this could be done if approved in the budget; however, it was not approved in the FY15 budget, so it will have to be addressed in the FY16 budget or at a special Town Meeting.

Being that there was no further business to be brought before the Board, a motion was made, seconded and so voted by all members to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Fleck
Administrative Secretary